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July 22, 1992

(Via Hand Delivery) Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

OF COUNSEL
TOBEY B. MARZOUK

* ADMITTED VA ONLY

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Alfred C. Sikes
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20854

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are writing to you on behalf of our client, TRW Inc., which has applied for FCC authorization to construct the Odyssey satellite system -- one of the so-called "big LEO" systems. TRW has also filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Commission's Report and Order in General Docket No. 90-217, the pioneer's preference proceeding, and has pending before the Commission a Motion for Stay of the processing of pioneer's preference requests in the big LEO proceeding.

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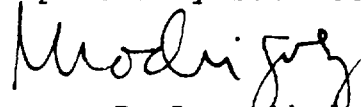
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An identical letter is being addressed to each Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Leventhal
Raul R. Rodriguez

RRR:nc

cc: Dr. Thomas J. Stanley, Chief Engineer
Robert L. Pettit, Esquire, General Counsel
All parties of record

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OF COUNSEL
TOBEY B. MARZOUK

* ADMITTED VA ONLY

The Honorable Sherrie P. Marshall
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 826
Washington, D.C. 20854

Dear Commissioner Marshall:

We are writing to you on behalf of our client, TRW Inc., which has applied for FCC authorization to construct the Odyssey satellite system -- one of the so-called "big LEO" systems. TRW has also filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Commission's Report and Order in General Docket No. 90-217, the pioneer's preference proceeding, and has pending before the Commission a Motion for Stay of the processing of pioneer's preference requests in the big LEO proceeding.

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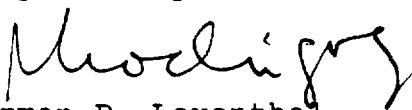
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OF COUNSEL
TOBEY B. MARZOUK

* ADMITTED VA ONLY

The Honorable Ervin S. Duggan
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20854

Dear Commissioner Duggan:

We are writing to you on behalf of our client, TRW Inc., which has applied for FCC authorization to construct the Odyssey satellite system -- one of the so-called "big LEO" systems. TRW has also filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Commission's Report and Order in General Docket No. 90-217, the pioneer's preference proceeding, and has pending before the Commission a Motion for Stay of the processing of pioneer's preference requests in the big LEO proceeding.

The Petition for Further Reconsideration was placed on public notice on June 24, 1992, and the final reply comments are due today. A full round of comments and replies were filed in response to the Motion for Stay, and TRW had hoped the Commission would have acted on the motion by now. Instead, we read with interest and apprehension an article in this week's Satellite News which reports that three Commissioners are inclined to grant a pioneer's preference to Motorola's Iridium project. (A copy of the article is attached.)

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The Honorable Ervin S. Duggan
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Raul R. Rodriguez

RRR:nc

cc: Dr. Thomas J. Stanley, Chief Engineer
Robert L. Pettit, Esquire, General Counsel
All parties of record

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**July 22, 1992
(Via Hand Delivery)**

OF COUNSEL
TOBEY B. MARZOUK

* ADMITTED VA ONLY

The Honorable James H. Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20854

Dear Commissioner Quello:

We are writing to you on behalf of our client, TRW Inc., which has applied for FCC authorization to construct the Odyssey satellite system -- one of the so-called "big LEO" systems. TRW has also filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Commission's Report and Order in General Docket No. 90-217, the pioneer's preference proceeding, and has pending before the Commission a Motion for Stay of the processing of pioneer's preference requests in the big LEO proceeding.

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TOBEY B. MARZOUK

* ADMITTED VA ONLY

The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20854

Dear Commissioner Barrett:

We are writing to you on behalf of our client, TRW Inc., which has applied for FCC authorization to construct the Odyssey satellite system -- one of the so-called "big LEO" systems. TRW has also filed a Petition for Further Reconsideration of the Commission's Report and Order in General Docket No. 90-217, the pioneer's preference proceeding, and has pending before the Commission a Motion for Stay of the processing of pioneer's preference requests in the big LEO proceeding.

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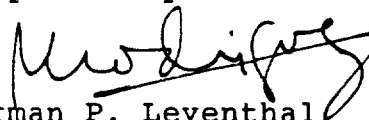
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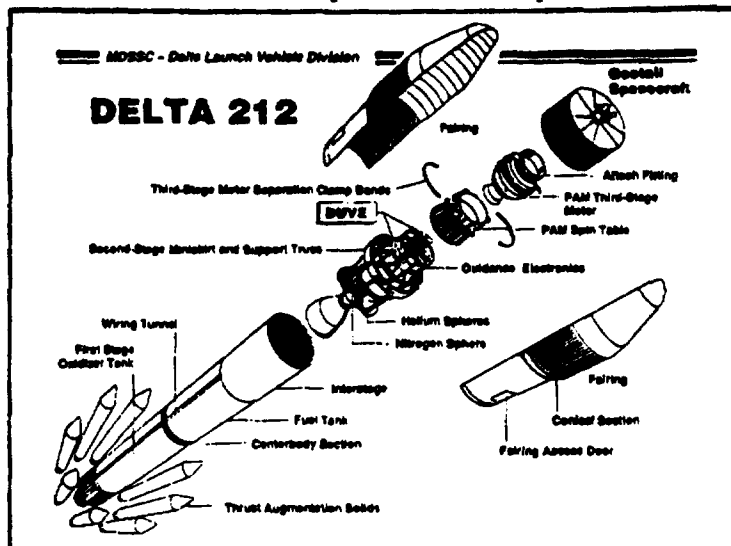
Via Satellite Magazine
World Satellite Directory
Satellite XII Conference

July 20, 1992
Washington, D.C.
Vol. 15, No. 29

Dear Executive:

As we went to press, McDonnell Douglas Space Systems Co. tentatively had scheduled the launch of NASA's Geotail spacecraft for this Friday between 10:26 a.m.-10:31 EDT on a Delta 2, version 6925, from launchpad 17A at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. The Geotail mission is part of the International Solar Terrestrial Physics Project at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., and is a joint effort between the Japanese Institute for Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS) and NASA.

Information gathered during the Geotail mission will allow scientists to model and better understand the effects of solar activity on the Earth's geomagnetic environment. Geotail will be the first spacecraft to make extensive measurements of magnetospheric physics processes in the Earth's geomagnetic tail. NEC of Japan supported ISAS's development of the Geotail spacecraft. The spacecraft will weigh 2,223 pounds at launch. The diameter of the spacecraft is 7.2 feet with a height of 5.2 feet. The design life of Geotail is approximately four years.



FCC NEARING DECISION ON PIONEER'S PREFERENCE STATUS FOR IRIDIUM

SATELLITE NEWS has learned that, as a result of direct lobbying by FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes with his fellow FCC commissioners, the FCC likely will award a highly coveted Pioneer's Preference status to Motorola's controversial low-earth-orbit (LEO) Iridium satellite project.

Sources familiar with the vagaries of the FCC's regulatory process told us that Sikes has become involved on a personal level--courting the two additional votes he needs to push through the pioneer classification. As we went to press, the commissioners appearing to favor granting the preference to Motorola were: Sikes, Andrew Barrett of Illinois (Motorola's home state) and James Quello.

Sources said that Commissioner Sherrie Marshall is adamantly opposed to granting a Pioneer's Preference for any Big LEO system. Ervin Duggan is believed to be undecided as to how to vote on the matter, which many believe will be dealt with during the commission's open meeting here on Aug. 5 at 2 p.m.

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..An Embattled Iridium Needs the Chairman's Support

"[Chairman] Sikes doesn't want to give up on Iridium," said one source familiar with the Big LEO issue. "Staffers at the FCC are really trying to move things along."

Pioneer's Preference status provides for a spectrum allocation preference to applicants proposing novel services. All of the Big LEOs have filed for the coveted designation.

Still another source was even more critical of Sike's actions, stating: "Chairman Sikes is trying to get two additional votes for Pioneer's Preference [status] for Iridium over the objections of [FCC Chief Engineer] Dr. Tom Stanley and the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology Assessment."

Indeed, the commission has a number of options open to it in managing the Big LEOs including:

- awarding no Pioneer's Preferences to any Big LEO proponent;
- giving everyone the classification;
- granting the status to selected systems;
- delaying the entire proceeding until late September; or
- putting off any decisions until after the presidential election.

The war of words has continued recently over a filing made by Motorola Satellite Communications Inc. on behalf of its embattled Iridium system, suggesting two different spectrum approaches that it said will permit all LEO proponents to begin operations.

Motorola's first option proposes an additional allocation of 10.5 MHz of spectrum in the 1675-1710 MHz band for LEO mobile satellite services (MSS) uplinks. Such uplinks would be used by the four code division multiple access (CDMA)/spread spectrum applicants in tandem with the 1610-1616 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz bands.

"With this additional spectrum, these four applicants could share the same amount of spectrum (33 MHz) as they have earlier proposed in these proceedings," Motorola said. Under this approach, Motorola will be licensed to operate bidirectionally over the remaining 10.5 MHz in the 1616-1626.5 MHz band.

The second option calls for the addition of 10.5 MHz of contiguous uplink spectrum just below the current radiodetermination satellite service (RDSS) uplink band between 1599.5 and 1610 MHz. Once again, this approach will allocate 33 MHz of spectrum to the CDMA/spectrum applicants and allow Motorola to operate in the remaining 10.5 MHz of the RDSS uplink band.

In an FCC filing opposing Motorola's controversial plan, Loral Qualcomm Satellite Services Inc. (GlobalStar) slammed the proposal as a "self-serving" resolution of the pending proceeding.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Nesa Chappelle, hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Letter was served via hand and first-class mail, postage prepaid, this 21st day of July 1992, on the following persons:

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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*Robert L. Pettit
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